



The right to people who care about me

Burnaby Charter Action Plan
2021

Burnaby Children's Charter

I have the right to feel safe

"If you get treated badly, you will have a bad memory."

"[I like that] I can walk to my grandparent's house."

I have the right to healthy food and clean water

"I like to eat bananas."

"It's good that there are stores in my community. We need food to grow big."



I have the right to community spaces

"The library [is important], because anyone can go there."

"[Community centre is important because] you can learn without having to go to school"



I have the right to a clean environment

"I like to collect caterpillars. I like flowers."

"Stop people smoking."



I have the right to play

"When I can play I'm happy."

"I like to play outside in the park."



I have the right to people who care about me

"I love my mom, dad and brother, they take care of me."

"I ask police if I don't know how to go home."



I have the right to kindness, love, and to be included

"We help others so that when we need help they help us."

"When we are treated right we will treat others better."



I have the right to be heard and to express myself

"I like when the teacher writes my ideas down."

"Listen to us, don't ignore us."

I have the right to sleep and rest

"Because we need to sleep to grow."

"[I like] my house when no one is there. I like alone time."

"[We need] apartment buildings families can afford."

I have the right to learn

"The aquarium is important because you can learn about jellyfish."

"I like my school. I like to go there to play with my teacher and my friends."



Drawings and quotes provided by the children of Burnaby.

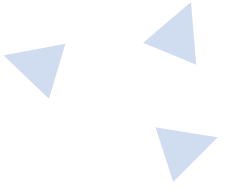


The Burnaby Children's Charter was developed in 2019 and included the voices of 250 children across Burnaby.

The Charter was developed by the Burnaby Children's Community table in partnership with Equitas and is now in the action planning stage, with [multiple agencies](#) having endorsed the Charter.

This presentation is part of a year-long series where we will highlight the rights of the Charter each month and is intended for adults who work with children and youth.

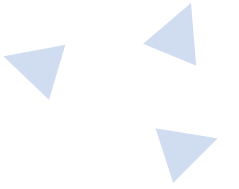
A few quotes gathered from children during the Charter creation process:



“I love my mom, dad and brother. They take care of me”

“I ask the police if I don’t know how to go home”

Explaining the Right

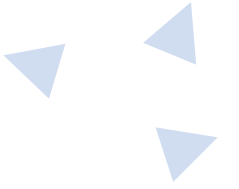


Children frequently expressed the importance of caring adults in their lives, whether it was family members, teachers, or community members.

Children are vulnerable members in our society, which means they have a set of special rights afforded to them under the Convention on the Rights of the Child.

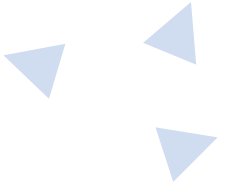
Children require caring adults to help them grow up happy and healthy.

Questions to think about or discuss:

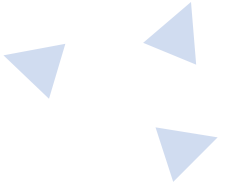


1. What are you seeing in the community in relation to this right?
2. As an adult supporting children, what is your responsibility to this right?
3. What strategies do you currently implement to ensure children feel cared for in your space?

Best Practice



- When it comes to the right to people who care about me, we know that children experience family and relationships in a diversity of ways
- In highlighting this Charter right with children and youth, whether it is through activities or in the safe environment we create, we can assure children and youth that while we all experience family differently, relationships at school, home and the community are all important and all help us thrive.



For more information:

Suzanne Vardy Suzanne.Vardy@burnabyschools.ca
Safe and Caring Schools Team- Burnaby School District

Sheri Brattston Sheri.brattston@burnabyschools.ca
Managing Director, Community Education-Burnaby School District

Gabriella Maio Gabriella.Maio@gov.bc.ca
Community Development Worker- Ministry of Children and Family Development